

CLAIMS

1. A pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine,
a pivoting handle connected to a housing;
an actuator rod passing through the pivoting handle; and
5 a control device located in the housing for controlling one or more
features of the machine;

wherein said actuator rod is in operative engagement with said control device when
said handle is in the upright position and said actuator rod is disengaged from said control
device when said handle is in the folded position.

2. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine of claim 1, wherein said
actuator rod further includes a button on one end which is depressed to cause said
actuator rod to engage said control device to control one or more features of said
machine.

3. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine of claim 2, wherein one
of said features is a suction-motor and said control device when engaged surges the
suction-motor by applying full power to said suction-motor.

4. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine of claim 2, further
comprising a spring for biasing the actuator rod upward to disengage said actuator rod
from said control device when said button is released.

5. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine of claim 2, wherein
said control device is a switch.

6. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine of claim 5, wherein one
of said features is a suction-motor and said switch when engaged surges the suction-
motor by applying full power to said suction-motor.

7. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a machine of claim 6, wherein said

switch is part of a control circuit for controlling said one or more features including said suction motor.

5 8. A pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance,
 a pivoting handle having an upper section and a lower section;
 an actuator rod passing through the upper section; and
 a control device located in the lower section for controlling one or more
features of the machine;

10 wherein said actuator rod is in operative engagement with said control device when
said pivoting handle is in the upright position and said actuator rod is disengaged from
said control device when said pivoting handle is in the folded position.

15 9. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance of claim 8,
wherein said actuator rod further includes a button on one end which is depressed to
cause said actuator rod to engage said control device to control one or more features of
said floor care appliance.

20 10. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance of claim 8,
wherein one of said features is a suction-motor and said control device when engaged
surges the suction-motor by applying full power to said suction-motor.

25 11. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance of claim 8,
further comprising a spring for biasing the actuator rod upward to disengage said actuator
rod from said control device when said button is released.

 12. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance of claim 8,
wherein said control device is a switch.

30 13. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance of claim 12,
wherein one of said features is a suction-motor and said switch when engaged surges the
suction-motor by applying full power to said suction-motor.

14. The pivoting handle and control arrangement for a floor care appliance of claim 13, wherein said switch is part of a control circuit for controlling said one or more features including said suction motor.

- 5 15. A pivoting handle and control arrangement for a vacuum cleaner,
a pivoting handle having an upper section and a lower section;
an actuator rod passing through the upper section having a button at one end; and
a switch located in the lower section which is pushed by said actuator rod when
said button is pressed.

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